(c) whether it is a fact that a survey has been done by Government on creating a potential for exports in the construction sector;

(d) the details of the findings of this survey done by the Government; and

(e) the steps proposed to encourage exports in the construction sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S ELANGOVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Foreign Trade Policy, contains various schemes and policies of Government of India for promoting exports of all the commodities and services worldwide including in African and Latin American countries by creating level playing field for Indian exporters *vis-a-vis* their International competitors. Besides, Government of India has launched Focus LAC (Latin American & Caribbean countries) and Focus Africa programmes to encourage exports, including the construction sector, to these regions. Under these programmes financial assistance is given to exporters for undertaking export promotion activities as per the Market Development Assistance (MDA) guidelines. Government of India has also extended Lines of Credit (LOCs) for promoting exports, including construction, to the countries of these regions.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Various export promotion schemes of the Government, including the schemes of Market Access Initiative (MAI) and MDA, are updated from time to time to take care of the genuine concerns of the stakeholders.

Export of fruits and fruit jelly

2332. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of export of fruits and fruit jelly during the last three years;

(b) whether Government are aware of the huge potential for exporting grapes and mango pulp in some pockets of Tamil Nadu; and

(c) the steps taken to provide technical and financial assistance to fruit growers to boost export of fruits and fruit pulp?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Details of exports of fruits and fruit jelly during the last three year are given below:

(quantity in metric tons, value in rupees in crores)

	2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
Product	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
A. Fresh Fruits						
Mangoes	44429	80.99	38003	84.19	60551	110.52
Grapes	14606	60.21	25680	110.15	.26783	105.89
Other Fruits	110520	146.12	90608	121.74	149294	171.27
B. Processed Fruits						
Fruit Jelly	8339	34.96	8103	35.76	12383	45.57
Mango pulp	76735	241.34	96107	297.01	89515	241.99

(Source: DGCI&S)

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The initiatives taken by APEDA to boost export of vegetables, fruits and processed food products include setting up of Agri Export Zones and participation in important trade fairs. It is also extending financial incentives to exporters through its schemes for Infrastructure Development, Market Development, and Quality Development for testing of Pesticides Residue, Research and Development and Transport Assistance Financial assistance has also been extended for setting up of in-house quality control laboratories. It has developed packaging, through Indian Institute of Packaging, for export of food products.

Maharashtra Special Economic Zone and Designated Area Bill, 2004

2333. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has submitted to the Union Government the proposed Maharashtra Special Economic Zone and Designated Area Bill, 2004 for administrative approval;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and